(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of cases of Power of Attorney are pending for registration in Delhi;

(b) if so, their number as on 30th June, 2001 together with the period of pendency;

(c) whether Government are aware that rampant corruption at various levels is causing delay resulting in public harassment; and

(d) the corrective measures proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the Government of NCT of Delhi and the Registrar, Delhi High Court and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Poor Conviction Rate

863. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "The disorder of law — poor conviction rates underline the failure of the system" which appeared in the Indian Express, dated 28th May, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to address the various problems and bottlenecks mentioned in the news-item regarding Government's policy to standardise the criminal justice system?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) with a view to removing certain difficulties or lacunae felt in its working of the procedures in criminal cases, the Law Commission of India has comprehensively reviewed the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The Code of Criminal Procdeure (Amendment) Bill, 1994 is pending consideration by Parliament. The Government has recently appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Justice V.S. Malimath, to suggest measures for revamping the Criminal Justice System.